Indiana Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry State Forest Resource Management Guide Public Comment Summary

SUMMARY COMMENTS

<u>Jackson Washington State Forest</u> <u>Compartment 2 Tract 15</u> <u>30 Day Comment Period Ending: 3/7/2014</u> <u>Comments Received: 1</u>

The table below is a summary of public comments received concerning the draft Resource Management Guide. The public comments received have been reviewed in their entirety and given due consideration summarized in the Division of Forestry response below.

Comment Summary	Division of Forestry Response
Comment Summary:	This tract is outside the JWSF primary recreation area, but does receive considerable
Opposes prescribed timber harvest	hunting and horse use as noted in the RMG. Consideration is given to these uses. A
 Opposes prescribed timber harvest Concern that harvest will negatively impact recreational use of nearby recreation facilities. Higher priority should be given to habitat and recreation. Concern that harvest will encourage invasive species growth (multi floral rose). Concern harvest of declining pine to accelerate native hardwood restoration is not responsible management approach. Ignores pine benefits. Concern on impact to Indiana bat. Concern on terminology used to describe trees is utilitarian in nature. Concern of potential impact to endangered/threatened species. Recommends detailed inventory of birds, wildlife and plants be included in DMG. 	 hunting and horse use as noted in the RMG. Consideration is given to these uses. A portion of the trail may be temporarily closed during management activities. There are no lakes, picnic areas or hiking trails in this area as inferred by commenter. Area will be monitored for invasive species outbreaks and control measures implemented appropriate for the area. The prescribed management activities are consistent with silvicultural principles and supported by inventory data and field assessments. Removal of targeted non-native pine is consistent with native forest restoration goals. Prescription promotes habitat diversity across the landscape. As standard practice, the Division of Forestry utilizes guidance from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and other sources to avoid take impacts to the Indiana bat Habitats, communities and species are considered as part of the management planning process. Along with field observations, Natural heritage data has been reviewed to check for threatened or endangered bird and wildlife species on or near the management unit. Concern also addressed in the DoF Environmental Assessment. The RMG uses forest terminology which integrates many considerations including biological, human utility and more. Sometimes the scope of considerations are not readily portrayed by the terminology. The concerns expressed have been considered and may be further addressed during
be included in DMG.	 Assessment. The RMG uses forest terminology which integrates many considerations including biological, human utility and more. Sometimes the scope of considerations are not readily portrayed by the terminology.